

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 01333 141715Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 AS-01 /027 W

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O 141600Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9690

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 1333

STADIS////////////////////////////////

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TRIP: BOLIVIA PRESIDENT REQUESTS

SECRETARY DISCUSS OUTLET TO SEA

WITH PERUVIAN PRESIDENT

1. PRESIDENT BANZER CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE FEB 14 TO CONSULT ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RAISING WITH PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ THE SOLUTION TO TENSIONS BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE BY MEANS OF AN ARRANGEMENT FOR A CORRIDOR TO THE SEA FOR BOLIVIA. HE MADE HIS PRESENTATION IN TERMS OF AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE U.S. TO CONTRIBUTE TO RELIEVING STRAINS IN THE SOUTHERN CONE AND BRINGING ABOUT PEACE IN THIS TROUBLED AREA. HE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT A POSSIBLE FUTURE CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU AND NOTED THE LARGE BUILD-UP IN ARMS IN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN RECENT YEARS. HE SAID THAT A U.S. DIPLOMATIC PRESENTATION TO MORALES BERMUDEZ WOULD HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT SINCE IT COINCIDES WITH MORALES OWN VIEWS OF HOW BEST TO SOLVE THE TWO ISSUES OF CHILE/PERU POTENTIAL CONFLICT AND BOLIVIA'S OUTLET TO THE SEA. PRESIDENT BANZER SAID THAT A PRIVATE TALK WITH MORALES COULD NOT IN HIS OPINION BE USED BY LEFTIST ELEMENTS IN THE GOP AND COULD NOT HAVE ANYTHING BUT A HELPFUL IMPACT ON THE NGOTIATIONS
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TOWARDS A SOLUTION.

2. PRESIDENT BANZER BEGAN HIS DISCUSSION WITH A GENERAL STATEMENT THAT EXTREMISTS IN AND OUT OF THE SOUTHERN CONE HAVE SOUGHT TO TOPPLE PRSIDENT PINOCHET AND HIMSELF. HE SAID THOSE SAME ELEMENTS ARE NOW ATTEMPTING TO TORPEDO THE OUTLET TO THE SEA TALKS SO AS TO CONTINUE DISSENSION IN THIS AREA. HE SAID THAT BOLIVIA IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN AN OUTLET TO THE SEA BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY IS INTERESTED IN REDUCING TENSIONS AND IN SEEING RESTRAINING ON ARMS BUILD-UP IN CHILE AND PERU. HE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT IF THE OUTLET TO THE SEA MATTER WERE NOT SATISFACTORILY SOLVED THERE COULD WELL BE ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU. BOLIVIAN LAND AND AIR SPACE WOULD BE INVOLVED. HE SAID THAT AVOIDING SUCH A CONFLICT SHOULD BE A SUBJECT OF CONCERN FOR ALL OF THE HEMISPHERE.

3. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE KNEW PERFECTLY WELL THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE SECRETARY TO VISIT BOLIVIA ON THIS TRIP, BUT HE ASKED ME HOW HIS CONCERNS AND HIS INTEREST IN HAVING THE SECRETARY RAISE THESE SUBJECTS WITH PRESIDENT MORALES COULD BEST BE PRESENTED TO THE SECRETARY. HE ASKED ME IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO GO TO LIMA TO HAVE A FEW MINUTES CONVERSATION WITH THE SECRETARY BEFORE HE STARTED HIS TALK WITH THE PERUVIAN AUTHORITIES. HE ASKED IF THAT WERE NOT POSSIBLE WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR A MEMBER OF THE SECRETARY'S GROUP TO COME TO LA PAZ TO MEET WITH HIM AND RETURN TO LIMA TO BRIEF THE SECRETARY IN TIME TO HAVE THE MATTER RAISED WITH THE PERUVIAN PRESIDENT. I TOLD THE PRESIDENT I WOULD CONVEY HIS THOUGHTS TO WASHINGTON PROMPTLY AND SEEK GUIDANCE. I TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD LAY OUT HIS CONVERSATION AS BEST AS I COULD IN MY MESSAGE. WHILE HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THAT HE SAID THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT A FACE-TO-FACE REVIEW EITHER BY ME WITH THE SECRETARY OR BY AN EMISSARY FROM THE SECRETARY'S GROUP WOULD BE THE MOST USEFUL.

4. I SHOULD NOTE THAT THE PRESIDENT LEFT A MEETING TO TALK WITH ME AND THAT PRESENT IN THE MEETING WERE THE BOLIVIAN AMBASSADORS TO CHILE AND PERU. I SUSPECT THAT THE INITIATIVE PRESIDENT BANZER TOOK WITH ME IS A DIRECT OUTGROWTH OF IDEAS CONFIDENTIAL

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GIVEN TO HIM BY BOLIVIA'S AMBASSADOR TO PERU, JULIO SANJINES.

5. I WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE FOR A RESPONSE WHICH I COULD PASS TO THE PRESIDENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PERHAPS IF THE SECRETARY COULD SEE AMBASSADOR SANJINES FOR A FEW MINUTES IN LIMA THAT WOULD SATISFY BANZER'S REQUEST. STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAPAZ01333
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760057-0659
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760248/aaaabpme.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S TRIP: BOLIVIA PRESIDENT REQUESTS SECRETARY DISCUSS OUTLET TO SEA
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006